

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 1, page 25 as follows:

Imagine that a user at a point of care terminal 20 would like to communicate with network server A. Referring to Table 1, it is seen that network server A can either communicate via wireless ethernet, wired ethernet or the cellular network. The local ICS module 304 first attempts to communicate via the wireless LAN (step 272). Toward that end, the ICS module 304 determines whether the point of care terminal or network server is in range of the wireless LAN in step 274. If the ICS module 304 determines that the wireless LAN is in range, a communication link is established via the wireless LAN. If, in step 274, the ICS module 304 determines that the wireless LAN is out of range, it attempts to communicate via the cellular communication network in step 278. If the remote computer is within a cellular network (step 280), the system establishes a communication link via the cellular communication network in (step 282). If the remote computer is outside of a cellular network, which could be the case in remote areas, a message is transmitted to the screen that instructs the user to connect the internal modem/PCMCIA interface to an appropriate RS232 telephone jack (step 284). This is necessary to establish connectivity to the PSTN 45 . If the connection is established in step 286, a data link is established via a landline and data is transferred via the landline (step 288). Otherwise, processing returns to step ~~[[229]] 205~~ or step ~~[[231]] 250 via step 290~~ (depending on whether the calling program was the local ICS module or the network ICS module.) If instead of wishing to communicate with network server A, the point of care terminal (20 or 22) desires to communicate with network server B, the local

ICS would attempt to first communicate via a wireless LAN interface. This gives the user at a point of care terminal (20 or 22) more flexibility than a wired connection and it could be accomplished at a very minimal cost compared to cellular or PSTN (depending upon the distance to be traveled and the amount of time for the data communication). Finally, suppose that the point of care terminal (20 or 22) chose instead to communicate with network server C. In that case, communication across wireless ethernet would not be appropriate because network server C only has access via a 56Kb wired modem. To effect the communication link, the local ICS module 304 would first attempt to establish a cellular link. If that was not successful or not possible given the point of care terminal's (20 or 22) location, the local ICS module 304 would then instruct the user to connect the point of care terminal (20 or 22) to the PSTN 45 for a wired transmission link. Only if that failed would the ICS module 304 initiate local data capture.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 3, page 26 as follows:

FIG. 9 depicts the processing performed by step 300 (FIG. 5) as the ICS module monitors and eventually terminates the session. First, in step ~~[[310]]~~ 3101, ICC database server software 510 searches the ICC database server 50 for the inputted patient name. If the patient name is found in step 320, the ICC database server software 510 then determines in step 322 whether the user data is a database update. If the user seeks to update the GPP data 535 (or one of the associated network servers), the ICC database server software 510 verifies that the user is authorized to update the data (step 324) and if the user is authorized, the database is updated in step 325 and processing flows to step 331. In step 331, the ICS module determines from the user's action whether there is more processing to be performed. If there is, program

execution branches to step 322, otherwise processing terminates in step 332. If the user is not authorized to update the database in step 324, he/she is informed that they do not have required authorization and processing terminates in step 326. If, in step 322, the ICC database server software 510 determines that the user is instead attempting to access database information (in other words the user is not attempting to update the database), it verifies whether the user is authorized to access the data in step 328 and then returns the data to the authorized user in step 330. Processing then flows to step 331 and the ICS module determines whether there is any more processing to be performed. If the user in step 328 is not authorized to access the data, processing terminates in step 329.

Please amend paragraph beginning on line 21, page 26 as follows:

If the ICC database server does not find the patient name in step 320, a message is transmitted back to the user on the remote computer informing them that the patient was not found (step 340), and the user is given another opportunity to re-input the patient's name in step 342. If the user re-inputs a new patient name in step 344, processing flows to step ~~[[310]]~~ 3101, and the ICC database server software 510 again searches the ICC database server for the inputted patient's name. If the user does not re-input a new patient name, processing flows to step 346 and the ICC database server software 510 determines whether the user is attempting to access a database record. If the user is attempting to access a non-existent database record (and does not re-input a new patient name) processing terminates in step 347. Otherwise a new record is created in the ICC database server for the new patient (step 348) and a message is transmitted back to the remote computer informing the user that

a new record was created. Also, as stated earlier a Global Patient Profile (GPP) record is sent to the ICC when processing terminates. The diversity and coverage of the information contained in the GPP database will assist medical services planners in assessing the utility and effectiveness of all observed medical phenomenon without revealing a patient's identity. The ICS module ascertains whether the user would like to perform more processing in step 349. If he/she does, processing returns to step 322, otherwise the program execution terminates in step 350.